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HISTORICAL SKETCHES

of

The Woods Family of Great Britain;

of which

William Woods, Esq., of Cincinnati, O.

Is a Descendant.

Containing a description

of the

Different Armorial Bearings of

The Family.

By

Henry Dudley Tector, M. A.

Herald and Genealogist,

Cincinnati, O.;

1888.





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By way of an introduction to this Family History the writer calls attention to the following selections from old authors.

They furnish two of the three incentives which gave origin to this pleasurable calling.

"The thing that first moved me to take some pains in this studie was the verie naturall affection which generally is in all men to heere of the worthiness of their ancestors, which they should be as desirous to imitate as delighted to understand." Camden

"Derived down to us, and received

In a succession, far the noblest way,

Of breeding pass'd to the in letters, arms,

Fair play, dance, use, civil exercise,

And all the blazon of a gentleman." Jon. Jon.



JOHN WOODS, ESQ.

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Of Carrigallen, County Leitrim, Ireland, was a descendant of the Woods Family of England; in all probability a lineal descendant of Lieutenant Edward Woods, hereafter mentioned, who was a soldier in the Republican Army under Oliver Cromwell, and in 1655 an inhabitant of County Cavan, which immediately adjoins Leitrim to the north. Carrigallen is situated on the River Liffey.

William Woods, son of John Woods, was born in the town in the year 1769: In 1795 came to the United States and settled in Maryland, where he died September 3, 1826. He married June 7, 1797, Mary Haggart, a native of Scotland, who died August 17, 1798. Their son,

2.

William Hawkins Woods was born October 26, 1794, and died November 16, 1821. He married, October 13, 1814, Mary A. Woods, born at Rocky Hill, Mass., January 23, 1799, and died in Cincinnati, O., November 12, 1855. Their son,

3.

William Woods was born in Baltimore, Maryland, January 1, 1822, and removed to Cincinnati in the winter of 1834.



October 22, 1841, Miss Elizabeth Martin Sharp, who was born October 22, 1822, and died April 4, 1885.

Children of William Woods, by his wife Elizabeth Martin Sharp:

- 1 -- Mary Ella, born July 22, 1843;
- 2 -- John Sharp, born March 31, 1846;
- 3 -- William Hawkins, born August 3, 1848;
- 4 -- Sarah Caroline, born January 10, 1851;
- 5 -- Harry Fowler, born March 2, 1854;
- 6 -- Lizzie, born October 3, 1857.





## LITERATURE BY NAME 1603

and

### The Cromwellian Settlement of Ireland.

The conquest of Ireland under Cromwell closed in 1653. Upon Parliament passed an "Act for the New Planting of Ireland with the English."

One of Cromwell's officers, who accompanied him to Ireland, was a puritan -- an enemy of Catholicism.

In 1654, by order of the Committee of the English Parliament, the lands had been confiscated and given to the officers and soldiers of the Army, and the merchants, tradesmen, &c, who had gone over from Ireland with Cromwell.

It is only a short time ago that the religious intolerance of the English of that period is a part of our history. It is enough to say that out of the intolerance of the English, came first the Church of England; then the Presbyterian Church, Methodism, Puritanism, Congregationalism, &c.



But it was because "Charles I. had his Cromwell" that Ireland was thus subjugated, and, especially the northern part, given over to Protestantism.

An extract from the "History of the Cromwellian Settlement of Ireland" is as follows:--

"To Lieutenant Edward Woods, on the certificate of William St. George, Esq., J.P. of the county of Cavan, dated November 6th, 1658, twenty five pounds, for five priests and friars by him apprehended, viz., Thomas McKernan, Turlough O'Gowan, Hugh McGeown, and Turlough Fitzsymons, who upon examination confessed themselves to be both priests and friars."

Counties Cavan and Leitrim adjoin each other in the north of Ireland. The appearance of Lieutenant Edward Woods in County Cavan two generations before the appearance of John Woods in County Leitrim would indicate that Edward Woods was one of the first of the Woods family to come over to Ireland. He is undoubtedly a direct ancestor of John Woods -- the latter is first-named of them.

Presuming this Edward Woods to be one of the connecting links between the Woods of England and the Woods of Ireland, the Coat of Arms of Edward Woods has been evoked as one of the many illustrations of the kind of the antiquity and respectability of this ancient and wide-spread English Family.



Oct. 25, 1940

Dear Sir:

We do not find any record of this work\* in the Newberry Library. Neither do we find it listed in the Library of Congress catalog nor in the American catalogue, vol. for 1884-1890.

Yours very truly,

THE NEWBERRY LIBRARY

George B. Utley, Librarian

\*Teetor, Henry Dudley  
Historical sketches of  
the Woods family...



WILLIAM WOODS.

Dauphin County, Pennsylvania.

A.D. 1754.

A "Historical Sketch of Dauphin County," by George W. Wood, published in Harrisburg, in 1877, is a valuable list of the names of the early settlers of the present county of said county, mentions the name of William Woods, among the so called Scotch-Irish Settlers.

From the list of the Scotch-Irish Settlers and their families who came to the county of Dauphin all the time to the present residence in the territory now covered by Dauphin County one can trace the trail of years ago. They were the fathers of our country -- the men who cleared the hills with their axes to cut away room for sacred to family prayer and domestic duties; to sow for the good future to come."

In speaking of these Scotch-Irish Settlers who had fled from Scotland and England during the religious wars and persecutions of the seventeenth century, a distinguished jurist of Pennsylvania says --





The class of people to whom we give the appellation of Scotch-Irish are very different from the Irish. Neither are they Gaelic, nor a cross <sup>of</sup> the two races. Not a drop of Gaelic or Milesian blood licks at their veins. Their ancestors came to this country about a hundred and fifty years ago, having maintained their Scotch plurage undiluted. And since, the two old daughters of Ireland, the English and the Scotch, have been transplanted from Scotland. Moreover, the Scotch Scotch aristocrats were a better class. Many of them, though not lords, were lairds, and the bulk of them were men of spirit, enterprise, and above the average intelligence. These Scotch lairds and their descendants gave to the country some of the best soldiers of the American Revolution, and the institutions and industries they brought with them are with us unto this day. "

To this source we can trace many of the foremost families of Cincinnati and the west. Among them, besides the Woods, may be mentioned the Mitchells, the Hendricks, Scotts, Speers, Galbraiths, Lees, Learys, Boyls, Adams, Dows, Thompsons, Porters, Axtells, Stearns, Cytus, Thompsons, Hoars, Harveys, Gibbons, Roberts, Allison, Stuarts, etc.



WILLIAM WOODS ,

of

Baltimore.

A. D. 1790.

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The "Chronicles of Baltimore" published in 1874; Col. J. Thomas-Scharf, author, says, On the 28th of May 1790, a very destructive fire broke out on the west side of South Street, in the warehouse of Patrick Mill, and consumed fourteen warehouses, and much valuable property.

The following persons were the principal losers. William Woods, William Jessup, Benjamin Williams and others.



# Origin of the name William.

William is derived from the Anglo-Saxon words, willis, the will, resolution, or power of determination; and helm, a covering for the head in war, a helmet, the part of a coat of arms that bears the crest.

"The babe clung crying at his nurse's breast,"

Scared at the dazling helm and nodding crest."

William has been freely rendered to mean -- a Helmet of Resolution.

In Norman-French it is Willelme; in German, Wilhelm; and French

Guillaume.

It was introduced into English nomenclature and became illustrious by William the Norman Duke. It thereupon became popular, inasmuch that on a festival day in the Court of King Henry II, when Sir William St. John and Sir Fitz Hagen, especial officers, commanded that none but the name of William should dine with them in the great chamber, they were accompanied with one hundred and twenty Williams, all Knights.



## THE WOODS FAMILY

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As represented in the  
 "County Family" of the  
 "United Kingdom."

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Sir William Woods, Knight, Garter King of Arms, who died in  
 1842, left a son --

Sir Albert William Woods, Knight, who entered the College of  
 Arms as Pursuivant in 1833, and was appointed Lancaster  
 Herald in 1841, and Garter Principal King of Arms in  
 1849.

Rev. Thomas Henry Woods, son of Benjamin Woods, Esq., of Sussex,  
 was Lord of the Manor of Shoppyke-Wegle, Sussex, and  
 Treasurer of Chichester Cathedral in 1877.

Henry Woods, Esq., of Gilmerland Hall, Lancashire, only son of  
Wm. Woods, Esq., of ... ..  
 for Lancaster and a Member of Parliament for ... ..  
 1832-1834.





John Anthony Wilson, Esq., of Bolton Hall, Northumberland, eldest son of William Wilson, Esq., was a banker of New Castle-on-Tyne, and Treasurer for the Corporation, and the Mayor of New Castle and Sunderland.

John William Wilson, Esq., of Chilgrise, Sussex, son of William Wilson, Esq., was educated at Winchester and at Balliol College, Oxford.



# THE WOODS FAMILY

## As Early Settlers of New England.

Henry Woods was at Middleborough, Mass. in 1683. His son Abiel Woods married Abiah Bowman in 1688 and left it same. They were among the first founders of the church at Middleborough.

William Woods was born at Boston in 1687.

Edward Woods was in Charlestown, in 1640, and Edward Woods in Boston in 1689.

Elihu Woods, a child, was struck down by the Indians and escaped in 1676. He was left for dead, but survived and grew to

George Woods was in Plymouth, in 1640.

Henry Woods was in Plymouth in 1643. His son John Woods

Henry Woods was in Concord in 1651, and Henry Woods was at  
 Weymouth, in 1676. The latter was captured by the Indians in  
 West-Middlesex County in 1671.

William Woods was at Ipswich in 1664.







## THE WOODS FAMILY

### As Early Settlers of Maryland.

The Historical Collections of the Essex Institute of Massachusetts contain the following facts in relation to the Woods Family among early settlers of that colony and state.

William Woods, mate of the sloop "Prudent;" was paid three pounds and five shillings "for services rendered" in a voyage to Virginia in 1634.

The Essex County Court records, dated 1636, contain a record -- "William Woods worked for one of the Jury in the year 1636, for five shillings" but excused by Mr. Haythreys.

John Woods, aged 45, was buried at Marblehead, Mass.

William Woods had a mortgage on 20 acres in Topsfield in 1676, executed to him by one of the Perkins Family.

Professor Leonard Woods, who was connected with Bowdoin College, and the father of Leonard Woods, once president of Bowdoin College, were natives of Essex County, and descendants of this family.





Henry M. Woods was a member of the Essex Bar in 1868.



## THE WOODS FAMILY

### A. Early Settlement of Pennsylvania.

The name of George Woods appears upon a "Book of Entries" of 22 March 1701 in the Land Office at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

This is a record of the lands "granted by William Penn, Esq., chief proprietary and governor of the said Province, to the Honorable the King of England, Ireland, and Scotland."

He purchased 1000 acres, and is probably the first of the

Woods family in Pennsylvania.

A son of George Woods in 1701 was George Woods, Jr.

He

was born in 1701 in Pennsylvania.

prior to 1701. He died in Hanover township, Pennsylvania, in August 1701, and was buried, Sarah, wife, and other children,

John Woods, born to Mary Woods. The Esp. Woods family was

born in 1701 in Pennsylvania.

born in 1701 in Pennsylvania.

born in 1701 in Pennsylvania.

born in 1701 in Pennsylvania.



1747, Samuel, Martha, Sarah, Anna, Margaret, Jennett, Mary, Elizabeth.

Colonel David Espy, of Bedford County, Pa., born in 1730, died in 1795, a very distinguished man during the Revolution, married Jane Woods, of Bedford, born in 1735, and a sister of George Woods, a mark in that settlement during and subsequent to the Revolution.



# THE WOODS FAMILY,

As Early Settlers of

Old Virginia.

Abraham Woods, aged 10 years, came in the "Margrett and John" to Virginia in 1620; and Abraham Woods was reported living "At ye Plantation over against James Cittie", February 16, 1623.

Alexander Woods was commander of the "Margaret" which came over in May 1679.

A List of the names of the dead in Virginia since "April last, February 16, 1623," contains the names of John Woods, buried at "ye College Land", and Robert Woods buried at "Pamunkey River".

Under date of September 1635 the following entry was made:-

"These under-written names are to be transported by the England imbarqued in the Hopewell, having taken the oath of conformity in Religion to ye Church of England -- Henry Woods - 27, Elizabeth Woods - 24, Jo. Woods - 26."

Henry Woods was one of "Ye Passengers which came from ye Port of London in the Assurance de Loy, July 24, 1635 to be transported to Virginia.





## THE WOODS FAMILY.

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In the Peerage of England.

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The Woods Family had in 1896 two representatives in the Peerage of England, viz. -- Sir Charles Lindley Woods, Viscount Halifax, and a descendant of the ancient Woods Family of Yorkshire: and

Sir Matthew Woods, Baronet of Hatherley House in Gloucestershire. Baron Woods descended from William Wood of Exeter, Devonshire. He was created Baronet in 1837, and served twice as lord-mayor of London. His son John Woods succeeded him as Baronet. His second son was

Baron William Woods, of Hatherley House. He was Lord High Chancellor, Fellow of the Royal Society, Doctor of Civil Law, and Doctor of Laws. "His lordship was a very learned and eminent lawyer." He was solicitor-general in 1831; vice-chancellor in 1835; lord-chancellor in 1839; represented England at the Congress of Vienna in 1847; was constituted lord-chancellor in 1868 and the same year was raised to the peerage as Baron Hatherley. This distin-



guished nobleman, as Baron Hatherley, bore arms-- "arg. and or.  
the mace of the lord-mayor of London in pale between an oak tree  
a mount vert. per"-- quartered with the arms of his mother's fam-  
ily.



## HANSTON.

### The Family History of the Woods

Devonshire.

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Hanston, at an early period, was successively in the Family of the Woods, and afterwards in the Charleses, whose heiress brought it to the family of Woods. The Woods resided here for several generations.

"It was (in 1322) the property of their representative; John Woods, who was the son of the Woods, (son of the Woods), built in the reign of Henry VIII. was in part destroyed by an accidental fire, in the beginning of the last century. The Hall and chapel remained."



## HERALDRY.

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It is claimed the Heraldry had its origin in the command of Moses to the Children of Israel in their journey through the wilderness; -- "Every man of the children of Israel shall pitch by his own standard, with the ensign of their father's house; far off about the tabernacle of the congregation shall they pitch."

Edmund Burke said -- "I consider that the registry of its birth may be found among the archives of the Holy Wars; that its cradle was rocked by the soldiers of the Cross."

The word Heraldry is derived from Herald, a host, or Held, a champion.

Whenever a Knight appeared at a Tournament, the herald sounded the trumpet, and the knight, accompanied by his squire, rode victoriously, and his squire, upon the back of his shield or surcoat, carried the device belonging to each. Thus, the knowledge of the various devices and symbols was called Heraldry.

As a science it is defined to be "Hereditary marks of honor, regularly composed of certain tinctures and figures, granted and authorized by sovereigns, for distinguishing, differencing and illustrating persons, families and communities. It is a symbolical





and pictorial language in which figures, devices,<sup>4</sup> and colours are employed instead of letters, and in which each heraldic composition has its own definite and complete signification, conveyed through a direct connection with some particular individual, family, dignity or office."

The heraldic art is of Norman origin as to England, though a branch of European mediæval heraldry.

Norman Knights at and after the Conquest, clad in their mas-  
cled armor, bore shields with conspicuous charges, to distinguish  
one from another. In course of time the favourite charges expressed  
the feelings and sentiments of the age, and came to be a spec-  
ies of pictorial language understood by all. The time of Richard  
heraldry soon degenerated from a language of nobility and  
dignity, but it retained its old story under Edward III  
and Richard II.

At this time, Montague says, "Though little given to study of  
any kind, a knowledge of heraldry was considered necessary; being  
as it were, the outward sign of the true spirit of chivalry, the  
index, also, to lengthened chronicles of doughty deeds."

Other writers call these heraldic symbols --

"The signs to which mankind's eyes are drawn, and which  
show nobleness, virtue, and worthiness, whereby such tokens of the worthy  
and courageous might appear before the cowardly unworthy, and thus  
move others to the imitation of like nobleness, virtue, and worthi-



- 285. '

Sir Walter Scott had a high estimate of true value of heraldry. In Pop Roy he writes --

"That! is it possible? Not know the figures of heraldry? Of what could your fathers be thinking?"

And to this author more than to any one man of the 19th century is the present age indebted for the revival of a popular sympathy with the science of Herpetology.

Love to God and love to the ladies were almost of the same significance in the days of chivalry. Courtesy, based upon respect to the fair sex, evidently had considerable effect upon medieval manners.

It is true that the American society is more, at the present time, so it has still a more equal, it is more equal, than it was in the past, and it is more equal, than it is now, than it was in the past, said Edmund Burke, "which, without confounding ranks, produced a noble equality, and barred it down through all gradations of life."



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It was chivalry that mitigated kings into companions, and raised private men to be fellows with kings. Without force or opposition it subdued the fierceness of pride and power; it obliged sovereigns to submit to the soft collar of social esteem; compelled stern authority to submit to elegance and gave a dominating vanquisher of laws to be subdued by manners."

Memory loves<sup>s</sup> to dwell on the stirring times of the Plantagenets, to recall the gorgeous tournaments and feudal fortress, when-

In rough magnificence arrayed,

Our ancient chivalry displayed

The pomp of her heroic ages,

The erected chiefs and tissued dames

Assembled at the chariot's call,

To a proud castle's high-arched hall.



# Coats of Arms, Crests and Mottos

of

## The Woods Family of Great Britain.

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"Where there is a will there is a way, and I am sure that I shall be able to do this without the aid of any other person in cloth and vices. Also, as God is my witness, if I, honest poverty take away no part of my will. And the Doctor who is now in the land is the first of the army, saith, if the army be once ours, in no manner of wise they ought to be taken from us."

A.D. 1575.

Richard Verastegan.

Edward Woods, of County Kent, whose Arms were confirmed and Crest granted Nov. 20, 1574 by Cooke, Clarencieux: bore -- Sable on a chevron between three oak trees eradicated, or, as many martlets of the field. Crest -- An arm embowed habited in green leaves, holding a broken spear in three pieces, one in pale, and two in saltire ppr. Motto -- Fortis in Procella.

Sir William Woods, Garter King of Arms, bore: - Azure a wild





man ppr wreathed about the loins, holding a club, all ppr, the right foot resting on a globe, or, on a chief of the last a lion passant guardant gules.

Crests: Dexter: out of a ducal coronet, or, a mount vert, thereon a lion statant guard, of the first, in front of an oak tree, ppr, fructed, or. Motto -- Robur.

Woods of Sussex -- Ar. on a fess <sup>a</sup>gulee az. three fleurs-de-lis, or, in chief a trefoil slipped vert. Crest -- A gauntlet ppr between two ostrich feathers erect argent.

Woods of Norwich, County Norfolk; granted by Bysshe, Clarendon, July 2, 1664. Ar. on a chevron between three martlets sable five founttes of the first. Crest -- A martlet sable wings endorsed gutter d'ar.

Woods, Wight, County Lancaster Ar. A chevron nebulee gules gutter d'ean between three martlets sable. Crest -- A staff <sup>a</sup>gulee fesswise sable thereon a martlet, wings <sup>e</sup>levated also gutter d'ean. Motto -- Labor et perseverantia.

Woods of London -- Az. a woodman ppr, wreathed about the temples and waist with laurel, vert, holding in his dexter hand a club, head downwards, in pale, or, his sinister arm extended and pointing upwards, and his dexter foot resting on a ~~beasant~~, on a chief of the last a lion passant guardant gules.

The following distinguished branches of the Woods Family all bore substantially the same arms -- in other words, all are armor-



ially identified with the family of which Sir William Woods, Garter King at Arms, above named, is a distinguished representative.

Sir Charles Lindley Woods, Viscount Halifax, of Monk Bretton, Yorkshire, a Baronet in the peerage of the United Kingdom, 1830, and a descendant of the ancient Yorkshire Woods Family founded by George Woods, Esq., of Monk Bretton. Sir Charles, in the last building, which manor he purchased in the seventh year of King James I. A.D. 1603;

The Woods of Hatherley House, County Gloucester, in Baron Hatherley; Thomas Wood, Chief Justice of the Common Pleas in England 1501;

Woods of Starwick, County Derby, time of Henry VII, A.D. 1485; John Wood, Esq., of Haristow, County Devon, 1620;

John Wood, Esq., of Levtranchard, County Devon, time of James I, A.D. 1603.

The Woods of Milverton and Winter Lodge, County of Dublin, Ireland.

John Woods, Esq., of Broughills, County Down, Ireland, 1778, whose Crest was a demi-man wreathed about the temples and waist with oak leaves, the dexter hand holding a club.

Woodstock House of Warwick Hall, County Down, Ireland, the family was seated in the sixteenth century, founded by Christopher Wood.

Tree -- oak tree.

George William Woods, Esq., of 11, York Street, London, is a member



Lancaster, was a Member of Parliament in 1811. He descended from Rev. William Woods, of Leeds, County of York, minister of Mill Hill Chapel, 1745.

Henry Richard Woods, Esq., of Malin Hall, Yorkshire, 1786, descended from the Woods of Pickering, Yorkshire. Crest -- An oak tree charged with a cornucopia.



## WOODS ARMORIAL BEARINGS.

A. D. 1881.

Sable, on a chevron between three oak trees eradicated, or,  
as many martlets of the field.

Crest --- An arm holding a green leaf, holding a  
broken spear in the palm, and in pale, a broken battle-axe.

Motto --- F. G. L. P. M.

Supporters --- Str. L. & R. M.





### Explanation of Terms.

The Shield, or Escutcheon, is the object whereon the emblems or charges are depicted.

The Field, is the surface within the boundary lines of the shield.

The Tinctures, comprise two metals, five colours, and eight furs.

#### The Metals.

<u>Metals.</u>	<u>Precious Stones.</u>	<u>Significations.</u>
Gold - or.	Topaz.	Constancy.
Silver - Argent.	Pearl.	Modesty.

#### Colors.

Gules, Gu. - Red	Ruby	Magnanimity.
Azure, Az. - Blue	Sapphire.	Loyalty.
Vert. - Green	Emerald.	Peace, Joyous.
Sable, Sa. - Black	Black.	Warlike.
Purpure, Pu. - Purple	Amethyst.	Devotion.



The Crests were ensigns of high honor and were originally confined to a few persons of eminence. Crest is from the old French crête - tarice - and is typical of a high spirit.

The Motto constituted in early times the "password" of the bearer. Later, it became an epigrammatic expression having some allusion to the person bearing it, or indicative of a favorite sentiment.

Crest -- Coronet -- issuing from which crests are often seen is composed of a circlet of gold, chased and jeweled, having raised on it four strawberry leaves, three of which appear in the representation.

A Crest Wreath was formed of two pieces of silk of the first two colors of the Armorial Bearings, twisted together by the lady who chose the favoured individual for her knight.

The Helmet was formerly worn as a defensive weapon to cover the bearer's head, and is now placed over the arms as a mark of gentility. A knight's helmet, (as in this representation) was of steel adorned with silver.

The Mantle, or lance-requin, attached to the helmet, had its origin from the Coiffe, a sort of ornamental streamer, or scarf, which passed around the body, and over the shoulder. This super-ornament was introduced in the reign of Henry III.

The Mantlet is a heraldic ornament. In Cadence, the Mantlet is



the difference of the fourth son. Shakespeare, in describing Macbeth's Castle thus speaks of the Martlet:

\_\_\_\_\_ "This guest of Summer,  
The taule-haunting martlet, does approve,  
By his loved mansionry, that the heaven's breath  
Smells wooingly here: no jutty, frieze, buttress  
Nor coigne of vantage, but this bird hath made  
His pendant bed and procreant cradle."

The Clayton is a honorable ordinary representative of  
of a home, and a fitting, and *indeed the foundation of a family*

The Oak tree represents the origin and meaning of the surname.  
Wood and Woods, while the motto - Fortis in procella - strong in  
the storm - alludes directly to the well-known storm-defying char-  
acteristic of the oak in the North American forest.

James Russell Lowell said --

"A little more of that old tree,  
Bounded with leafy gracefulness,  
Old Oak, give me;  
That the world's blasts around me blow,  
As I stand under its old bough,  
While my heart is true and free,  
As the old oak stands true and free."



### Conclusion.

In submitting the foregoing outline history of the Woods Family, the writer would say that he believes William Woods, Esq., of Cincinnati, mentioned in the title page, to be a lineal descendant of the old and honorable family of Woods of England -- a family that still maintains its ancient respectability. This last statement is verified by consulting the "Peerage, Baronage, and Knightage of Great Britain and Ireland", of which the author is the distinguished Sir Bernard Burke, Ulster King of Arms.

Henry Dudley Tector.

Cincinnati, February 1888.

Herald and Genealogist.















